

Application No. 10/808,798
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933/

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

RE: THE ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 9-12 and 24-27 is respectfully acknowledged. These claims have been canceled, without prejudice.

RE: THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 13, 14 and 15 have been amended to be rewritten in independent form, as well as to make some minor grammatical improvements.

In addition, claim 15 has been amended to clarify that the data indicating the pulse width of electrical energy is retrieved from the memory according to the combination of the type of ink ribbon and the type of label paper indicated by the specification data obtained from the RFID tags.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 13-15 be approved and entered.

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RE: THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-8, 13-23 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,593,952 ("Funayama et al"). This rejection, however, is respectfully traversed with respect to claims 13-15 as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 13, 14 and 15, a printer is provided which comprises: a printing section including a print head, and a holder which holds at least one consumable consumed during a printing operation of the printing section. As recited in amended independent claims 13-15, the consumable includes an ink ribbon having an RFID tag storing specification data thereof indicating at least a type of the ink ribbon. In addition, as recited in claim 14, label paper is also a consumable. And as recited in claim 15, the consumable label paper has an RFID tag storing specification data thereof indicating at least a type of the label paper.

Still further, according to the present invention as recited in each of amended independent claims 13-15, a wireless receiver performs data communication with the RFID tag(s), and the printing section is controlled based on data obtained from the RFID tag(s) via the data communication. In addition, a memory stores data indicating a pulse width of electrical energy in correspondence with the type of ink ribbon (claims 13 and 14), or

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the combination of the type of ink ribbon and the type of label paper (claim 15).

Finally, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 13-15, the printing section is controlled with pulses of electrical energy in accordance with the data indicating the pulse width of electrical energy retrieved from the memory according to the type of ink ribbon (claims 13 and 14), or the combination of the type of ink ribbon and the type of label paper (claim 15) indicated by the specification data obtained from the RFID tag(s).

The Examiner contends that Funuyama et al discloses at column 9, lines 55-67 and column 10, lines 1-13 controlling printing with pulse widths of electrical energy retrieved from a memory in accordance with the type of ink ribbon.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that Funuyama et al actually merely discloses performing γ correction based on manufacturing dispersion correcting data as described at column 10, lines 23-67 thereof.

And it is respectfully submitted that performing gamma correction does not correspond to retrieving data from a memory that indicates the pulse width of electrical energy (for pulses of electrical energy to be used to control a printing section) based on the type of ink ribbon indicated by the specification data obtained from the RFID tag of the ink ribbon or the type of

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ink ribbon and the type of label paper indicated by the specification data obtained from the RFID tags of the ink ribbon and label paper, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 13-15.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 13-15 clearly patentably distinguishes over Funayama et al, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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